The 3 steps to Transformation

REFLECT, RENEW & RISE

Imam Abu Yahya

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Hamd and Thanaa

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا، مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللهُ فَلاَ مُضِلَّ لَهُ، وَمَنْ يُضْلِلْ فَلاَ هَادِيَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لاَ إِلَهَ إِلاَّ اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

{يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ}

(آل عمران:102)

{يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا}

(النساء:1)

{يَاأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلاً سَدِيدًا * يُصْلِحْ لَكُمْ أَعْمَالَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَمَنْ يُطِعِ اللهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا}

(الأحزاب: 70، 71)

Indeed, all praise is due to Allah. We praise Him, seek His help, and seek His forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allah from the evils of our own selves and from the consequences of our bad deeds. Whomever Allah

guides, none can misguide; and whomever He allows to go astray, none can guide. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah alone, with no partner, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger.

“O you who have believed, fear Allah as He should be feared and do not die except as Muslims [in submission to Him]”

(Aal-e-Imran: 102)

“O mankind, fear your Lord, who created you from one soul and created from it its mate and dispersed from both of them many men and women. And fear Allah, through whom you ask one another, and the wombs. Indeed, Allah is ever, over you, an Observer”

(An-Nisa: 1)

“O you who have believed, fear Allah and speak words of appropriate justice. He will [then] amend for you your deeds and forgive you your sins. And

whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger (PBUH) has certainly attained a great attainment”

(Al-Ahzab: 70-71)

The best speech

أَمَّا بَعْدُ:

فَإِنَّ خَيْرَ الْحَدِيثِ كِتَابُ اللهِ، وَخَيْرَ الْهَدْيِ هَدْيُ مُحَمَّدٍ صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم، وَشَرَّ الأُمُورِ مُحْدَثَاتُهَا، وَكُلَّ مُحْدَثَةٍ بِدْعَةٌ، وَكُلَّ بِدْعَةٍ ضَلاَلَةٌ، وَكُلَّ ضَلاَلَةٍ فِي النَّارِ.

As for what follows:

The best speech is the Book of Allah, and the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. The worst of matters are newly invented ones, and every innovation is a misguidance, and every misguidance is in the Hellfire.

Introduction

As we bid farewell to the **Current Year** and step into the promising horizons of the **Coming Year**, we stand at a moment of reflection. Time, a precious blessing granted by Allah (SWT), passes swiftly, leaving behind both the fruits of our efforts and the lessons of our mistakes. In this blessed year, we have witnessed moments of joy, challenges, growth, and setbacks. With the start of the **Coming Year**, it is an opportune moment to pause, reflect on the past, and renew our intentions as we rise to meet the challenges and opportunities of the new year. This book is a journey of reflection, renewal, and growth - a path illuminated by the teachings of the Qur'an, the Sunnah, and the wise words of the Sahabah. Through these pages, we explore how to use the past year as a foundation for building a more purposeful and rewarding future in the **Coming Year**.

The concept of "Reflect, Renew, and Rise" embodies a transformative approach to personal and spiritual development. Reflecting allows us to look back at how we spent our time in the **Current Year** , renew

our intentions and goals with sincerity, and rise with determination to be better in the **Coming Year**.

Reflect, Renew, and Rise

A Journey from Current Year to a Purposeful Coming Year

Meaning:

Reflect: Look back at the **Current Year** and think about how you spent your time, what you achieved, and what you could do better.

Renew: Refresh your intentions and make new goals to improve yourself and your actions.

Rise: Move forward and grow into a better person in the **Coming Year**, with a clear purpose and determination.

It encourages learning from the past, starting fresh, and working hard to be better in the future.

Part 1

Here are 10 key points for you, with detailed explanations supported by the Qur'an, Sunnah, and teachings of the Sahabah

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1. Reflecting on Time as a Blessing

Arabic:

قال الله تعالى: وَالْعَصْرِ إِنَّ الْإِنسَانَ لَفِي خُسْرٍ (سورة العصر: 1-2)

Translation:

“By time, indeed, mankind is in loss.” (Surah Al-Asr: 1-2)

Explanation:

Time is one of the greatest blessings given by Allah. Reflecting on how we spent the **Current Year** should remind us to account for our deeds and use our time wisely. The Prophet ﷺ said:

قال رسولُ اللهِ صلَّى اللهُ عليه وسلَّم لرجلٍ وهو يَعِظُه : اغتنِمْ خمسًا قبل خمسٍ : شبابَك قبل هَرَمِك، وصِحَّتَك قبل سَقَمِك، وغناك قبل فقرِك، وفراغَك قبل شُغلِك، وحياتَك قبل موتِك.

“Take advantage of five before five: your youth before your old age, your health before your illness, your wealth before your poverty, your free time before your preoccupation, and your life before your death.” (Narrated by Al-Hakim).

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2. Self-Accountability

Arabic:

قال عمر بن الخطاب رضي الله عنه: حاسبوا أنفسكم قبل أن تحاسبوا وزنوا أعمالكم قبل أن توزن عليكم.

Translation:

“Take account of yourselves before you are brought to account, and weigh your deeds before they are weighed against you.” (Umar ibn Al-Khattab)

Explanation:

Discuss with yourself and others the importance of reviewing our actions in the **Current Year**. Have we fulfilled our obligations towards Allah, our families,

and society? This practice prepares us for the ultimate accountability on the Day of Judgment.

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3. Renewing Intentions (Niyyah)

Arabic:

قال النبي ﷺ: إنما الأعمال بالنيات، وإنما لكل امرئ ما نوى.

(رواه البخاري)

Translation:

“Actions are judged by intentions, and each person will have what they intended.” (Bukhari)

Explanation:

As we enter the **Coming Year**, emphasize the importance of sincere intentions in every action. Remind yourself and others that even mundane activities can become acts of worship if done with the right intention.

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4. Gratitude for Allah's Blessings

Arabic:

قال الله تعالى: وَإِذْ تَأَذَّنَ رَبُّكُمْ لَئِن شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ (سورة إبراهيم: 7)

Translation:

"And [remember] when your Lord proclaimed, 'If you are grateful, I will surely increase you [in favour].'" (Surah Ibrahim: 7)

Explanation:

Urge yourself and your loved ones to reflect on the blessings of the **Current Year** and cultivate gratitude to Allah. Gratitude is not just verbal but involves obeying Allah and using His blessings in a way that pleases Him.

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5. Repentance and Seeking Forgiveness

Arabic:

قال الله تعالى: إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ التَّوَّابِينَ وَيُحِبُّ الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ

(سورة البقرة: 222)

Translation:

“Indeed, Allah loves those who constantly repent and those who purify themselves.” (Surah Al-Baqarah: 222)

Explanation:

Encourage yourself and everyone else to end the **Current Year** with sincere repentance for their shortcomings and sins. Allah is always ready to forgive, and starting the **Coming Year** with a clean heart brings blessings.

6. Setting Goals for Good Deeds

Arabic:

قال النبي ﷺ: خير الناس أنفعهم للناس. (رواه الطبراني)

Translation:

“The best of people are those who are most beneficial to others.” (Tabarani)

Explanation:

Urge yourself and others to set meaningful goals for the **Coming Year**, focusing on acts of worship, community service, and self-improvement. Highlight the reward of helping others and improving oneself for the sake of Allah.

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7. Building Consistency in Worship

Arabic:

قال النبي ﷺ: أَحَبُّ الْأَعْمَالِ إِلَى اللَّهِ أَدْوَمُهَا وَإِنْ قَلَّ. (رواه مسلم)

Translation:

“The most beloved deeds to Allah are those that are consistent, even if they are small.” (Muslim)

Explanation:

Emphasize the importance of maintaining consistency in Salah, Dhikr, Qur'an recitation, and Charity. The **New Year** is an opportunity to establish habits of consistent worship.

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8. Strengthening Family Ties

Arabic:

قال النبي ﷺ: مَنْ أَحَبَّ أَنْ يُبْسَطَ لَهُ فِي رِزْقِهِ، وَيُنْسَأَ لَهُ فِي أَثَرِهِ، فَلْيَصِلْ رَحِمَهُ. (رواه البخاري)

Translation:

"Whoever would like his provision to be increased and his lifespan to be extended, let him uphold his family ties." (Bukhari)

Explanation:

Remind each other to strengthen relationships with family and reconcile any disputes from the past year as they move into the next year.

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9. Trusting Allah in Challenges

Arabic:

قال الله تعالى: فَإِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا (سورة الشرح: 6)

Translation:

“For indeed, with hardship [will be] ease.” (Surah Ash-Sharh: 6)

Explanation:

Discuss with your family the challenges faced in the **Current Year** and the importance of having faith that

Allah will bring ease and reward perseverance. Challenges are opportunities for growth and spiritual elevation.

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10. Ending with Du’a for a Blessed Year

Arabic:

قال النبي ﷺ: الدُّعَاءُ هُوَ الْعِبَادَةُ. (رواه الترمذي)

Translation:

“Du’a is worship.” (Tirmidhi)

We end the year with a collective Du’a, asking Allah for guidance, Barakah, Forgiveness, and a successful **Coming Year**. We encourage each other to make personal Du’as and and to keep trust in Allah’s mercy.

These points provide a comprehensive structure to reflect on the **Current Year** and prepare for the **Coming Year**, drawing wisdom from the Qur'an, Sunnah, and the practices of the Sahabah.

Part 2

Here are 10 more key points with references from the Qur'an and Hadith, along with lessons and explanations:

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1. The Purpose of Our Creation

Arabic Qur'an:

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ (سورة الذاريات: 56)

Translation:

"And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me." (Surah Adh-Dhariyat: 56)

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: "أحب الأعمال إلى الله أدومها وإن قل." (رواه البخاري)

Translation:

"The most beloved deed to Allah is that which is performed regularly, even if it is small." (Bukhari)

Lesson:

Highlight that our primary purpose is to worship Allah. Reflect on how well we fulfilled this in the

Current Year and make a resolution to improve this in the **New Year** through consistent, and sincere worship.

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2. The Value of Health and Free Time

Arabic Qur'an:

فَإِذَا فَرَغْتَ فَانصَبْ. وَإِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ فَارْغَبْ (سورة الشرح: 7-8)

Translation:

"Then when you have finished [your duties], stand up [for worship]. And to your Lord direct [your] longing." (Surah Ash-Sharh: 7-8)

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: "نعمتان مغبون فيهما كثير من الناس: الصحة والفراغ."

(رواه البخاري)

Translation:

“There are two blessings which many people waste: health and free time.” (Bukhari)

Lesson:

Urge yourself and others to use their health and time for acts of worship, learning, and serving others. Reflect on whether these blessings were used well in the **Current Year** and plan to make the most of them in the **Coming Year**.

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3. Gratitude for Allah’s Blessings

Arabic Qur’an:

لَئِن شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ وَلَئِن كَفَرْتُمْ إِنَّ عَذَابِي لَشَدِيدٌ (سورة إبراهيم: 7)

Translation:

“If you are grateful, I will surely increase you [in favor]; but if you deny, indeed, My punishment is severe.” (Surah Ibrahim: 7)

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: "من لم يشكر القليل، لم يشكر الكثير." (رواه أحمد)

Translation:

“Whoever is not grateful for small things will not be grateful for large things.” (Ahmad)

Lesson:

Teach yourself, your family and your children to be grateful for their blessings in the **Current Year** and to continue expressing gratitude in the **Coming Year**, as it leads to increased blessings and a closer relationship with Allah.

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4. Taqwa (God-Consciousness)

Arabic Qur’an:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا (سورة الأحزاب: 70)

Translation:

“O you who have believed, fear Allah and speak words of appropriate justice.” (Surah Al-Ahzab: 70)

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: "اتق الله حيثما كنت، وأتبع السيئة الحسنة تمحها."

(رواه الترمذي)

Translation:

“Fear Allah wherever you are, and follow up a bad deed with a good deed, and it will erase it.” (Tirmidhi)

Lesson:

Emphasize the importance of Taqwa in your life by being mindful of Allah in every action. Encourage everyone to start the **Coming Year** with a renewed commitment to self-discipline and righteousness.

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5. Charity and Helping Others

Arabic Qur'an:

فَمَن يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ (سورة الزلزلة: 7)

Translation:

"Whoever does an atom's weight of good will see it." (Surah Az-Zalzalah: 7)

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: **"**ظلُّ المؤمن يوم القيامة صدقته.**"** (رواه الترمذي)

Translation:

"The believer's shade on the Day of Resurrection will be his charity." (Tirmidhi)

Lesson:

Reflect on charitable acts performed durint the **Current Year** and motivate everyone to increase their charity and kindness in the **New Year**, as these acts bring blessings and purification.

6. Life as a Temporary Test

Arabic Qur'an:

وَمَا ٱلۡحَيَوٰةُ ٱلدُّنۡيَآ إِلَّا لَعِبٞ وَلَهۡوٞۖ وَلَلدَّارُ ٱلۡأٓخِرَةُ خَيۡرٞ لِّلَّذِينَ يَتَّقُونَۗ

(سورة الأنعام: 32)

Translation:

"And the worldly life is not but amusement and diversion; but the home of the Hereafter is best for those who fear Allah." (Surah Al-An'am: 32)

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: "كن في الدنيا كأنك غريب أو عابر سبيل." (رواه البخاري)

Translation:

"Be in this world as though you were a stranger or a traveler." (Bukhari)

Lesson:

Remind everyone that this life is temporary and the Hereafter is eternal. Reflect on how the **Current Year**

was spent in preparation for the Hereafter and focus on eternal goals in the **Coming Year**.

7. Du’a (Supplication)

Arabic Qur’an:

وَقَالَ رَبُّكُمُ ٱدۡعُونِيٓ أَسۡتَجِبۡ لَكُمۡ (سورة غافر: 60)

Translation:

“And your Lord says, ‘Call upon Me; I will respond to you.’” (Surah Ghafir: 60)

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: **"**لا يرد القضاء إلا الدعاء.**"** (رواه الترمذي)

Translation:

“Nothing repels divine decree except Du’a.” (Tirmidhi)

Lesson:

Teach yourself and others to rely on Allah through regular Du'as, especially in times of difficulty. Reflect on the Du'as made in the **Current Year** and encourage consistent supplication in the **Coming Year**.

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8. Seeking Knowledge

Arabic Qur'an:

قُلۡ هَلۡ يَسۡتَوِي ٱلَّذِينَ يَعۡلَمُونَ وَٱلَّذِينَ لَا يَعۡلَمُونَۗ (سورة الزمر: 9)

Translation:

"Say, 'Are those who know equal to those who do not know?'" (Surah Az-Zumar: 9)

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: "طلب العلم فريضة على كل مسلم." (رواه ابن ماجه)

Translation:

“Seeking knowledge is an obligation upon every Muslim.” (Ibn Majah)

Lesson:

Encourage setting knowledge-seeking goals for the **Coming Year,** whether Islamic or worldly, to strengthen faith and benefit society.

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9. Guarding the Tongue

Arabic Qur’an:

مَّا يَلْفِظُ مِن قَوْلٍ إِلَّا لَدَيْهِ رَقِيبٌ عَتِيدٌ (سورة ق: 18)

Translation:

“Not a word does he utter except that there is an observer prepared [to record it].”

(Surah Qaf: 18

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: "من كان يؤمن بالله واليوم الآخر فليقل خيرًا أو ليصمت."

(رواه البخاري)

Translation:

“Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should speak good or remain silent.” (Bukhari)

Lesson:

Encourage yourself and everyone else to reflect on their speech in the **Current Year** and resolve to speak truthfully and avoid any harm in the **Coming Year**.

10. Starting Fresh with Hope

Arabic Qur'an:

قُلۡ يَٰعِبَادِيَ ٱلَّذِينَ أَسۡرَفُواْ عَلَىٰٓ أَنفُسِهِمۡ لَا تَقۡنَطُواْ مِن رَّحۡمَةِ ٱللَّهِ

(سورة الزمر: 53)

Translation:

"Say, 'O My servants who have transgressed against themselves, do not despair of the mercy of Allah.'"
(Surah Az-Zumar: 53)

Arabic Hadith:

قال النبي ﷺ: "تفاؤلوا بالخير تجدوه." (رواه الطبراني)

Translation:

"Have optimism, and you will find goodness."
(Tabarani)

The Hadith:

جاء في الصحيحين وغيرهما أن رسول الله ﷺ قال:

"لا طيرة وخيرها الفأل."

قالوا: "وما الفأل؟"

قال: "الكلمة الصالحة يسمعها أحدكم."

وفي رواية: "ويعجبني الفأل الصالح الكلمة الحسنة."

(رواه البخاري ومسلم)

Translation:

The Prophet ﷺsaid:

“There is no bad omen, but the best of it is optimism (al-fa’l).”

The Companions asked, “What is al-fa’l?” He replied, “A good word that one of you hears.”

In another narration, “I like good optimism, which is a good word.”

(Reported by Bukhari and Muslim)

The Optimism

Explanation:

1. **Rejection of Superstition**

The hadith explicitly rejects ṭīrah (superstition or belief in bad omens), a practice prevalent in pre-Islamic Arabia. Superstition contradicts tawḥīd (belief in Allah's oneness) as it attributes influence to entities or events other than Allah. Muslims are reminded that nothing can harm or benefit them except by Allah's will.

2. **Encouragement of Optimism**

The Prophet ﷺ highlights al-fa'l (optimism) as the opposite of superstition. Optimism is derived from hearing positive and encouraging words that inspire hope and confidence in Allah's mercy and help, such

as someone saying, “You will succeed, in shā’ Allāh,” or “Good things are ahead.”

3. The Role of Good Words

Good words have a powerful impact on a believer’s heart, lifting spirits and motivating them to act with trust in Allah. The Prophet ﷺ emphasized the importance of sharing positive words to counter despair and negativity.

4. A Practical Lesson

Muslims are encouraged to adopt a positive mindset, avoid spreading negativity, and promote hope through kind and uplifting speech. This practice aligns with Islam’s emphasis on good character and fostering unity and love in the community.

5. **Optimism as a Sunnah**

The Prophet ’ﷺs preference for al-fa’l reflects his reliance on Allah and his effort to cultivate hope in others. Optimism, when paired with tawakkul (trust in Allah), empowers believers to face challenges with confidence.

6. **Avoidance of Negativity**

The hadith discourages pessimism and excessive worry, which can paralyze a person’s ability to act or rely on Allah. It reminds us that Allah’s mercy and guidance always overshadow fear or uncertainty.

7. **A Balanced Approach**

While optimism is encouraged, it must be paired with effort, prayer, and reliance on Allah. A Muslim should

work hard, seek Allah's help, and expect the best outcomes with full faith in His wisdom.

8. Impact on Community

Encouraging good words and optimism fosters a positive and supportive environment within the Muslim community. It strengthens bonds, uplifts individuals, and inspires collective progress.

9. The Prophet's Example

The Prophet ﷺ consistently demonstrated optimism in his life, even in difficult situations, teaching us to remain hopeful and trust in Allah's plan.

10. Actionable Takeaway

Make it a habit to share positive words with others, focus on good outcomes, and reflect on the blessings

Allah has already granted. Begin every day with hope and strive for success while maintaining complete reliance on Allah.

Summary

This hadith reminds us to reject superstition, embrace optimism, and share positive words. It emphasizes hope, reliance on Allah, spreading kindness, and reflecting the teachings and character of the Prophet ﷺ.

Lesson

Inspire yourself and others to start the **Coming Year** with hope, forgiving themselves for their past mistakes, and striving for improvement with trust in Allah's mercy.

خلاصة الكل

The bottom line

Ten points:

These points provide an impactful framework to reflect on the **Current Year** and prepare for a blessed **Coming Year**.

1: **Reflecting on Time as a Blessing**

In Surah Al-Asr, Allah (SWT) tells us that mankind is in loss, except those who believe, do good deeds, and advise each other in truth and patience. Time, as the Qur'an emphasizes, is a fleeting gift. The Prophet ﷺ

wisely counselled us to take advantage of five blessings before they are lost; youth, health, wealth, free time, and life itself. Reflecting on how we spent our time in the **Current Year** is an essential first step in understanding how we can better use the time ahead.

Key lesson: Reflect on your past actions, using your time wisely, and acknowledging Allah's grace in every moment.

2: **Self-Accountability**

The importance of self-accountability is a cornerstone of our faith. Umar ibn Al-Khattab (RA) once said, "Take account of yourselves before you are brought to account." This advice holds great weight as we prepare for the **Coming Year**. We must ask ourselves: did we fulfil our duties towards Allah, our families, and our communities? Were our actions in alignment with the purpose for which we were created?

Key lesson: Regular self-reflection and accountability are key to ensuring that our actions align with our purpose as believers.

3: **Renewing Intentions (Niyyah)**

The Prophet ﷺ taught us that "actions are judged by intentions." This principle is central to everything we do. As we enter the **Coming Year**, we must renew our intentions in every aspect of our lives—whether in worship, work, or relationships. A sincere intention transforms even mundane tasks into acts of worship, and it is the foundation of a successful year ahead.

Key lesson: Intentions shape our actions and directs our hearts towards Allah's pleasure. Start the **Coming Year** with a clear and renewed focus.

4: **Gratitude for Allah's Blessings**

In Surah Ibrahim, Allah promises that if we are grateful, He will increase us in blessings. Reflecting on the many blessings of the **Current Year** - our health, family, sustenance, and faith, should inspire us to express gratitude in words and actions. Gratitude is the key to receiving more from Allah, as He rewards the thankful, and blesses them further.

Key lesson: Cultivate gratitude in your heart, acknowledging Allah's countless favours, and see how your life is enriched in the **Coming Year**.

5: **Repentance and Seeking Forgiveness**

Repentance (Tawbah) is a powerful means of purification and renewal. Allah loves those who constantly repent and purify themselves. As we close

the chapter on the **Current Year,** let us turn to Allah in sincere repentance for any shortcomings, knowing that He is always ready to forgive.

Key lesson: Begin the **Coming Year** with a clean heart, seeking forgiveness for past mistakes and renewing your commitment to Allah.

6: **Setting Goals for Good Deeds**

The Prophet ﷺ said, “The best of people are those who are most beneficial to others.” As we set goals for the **New Year**, let us prioritize actions that serve others, whether through charity, kindness, or helping those in need. Setting goals for good deeds aligns us with Allah’s will and purifies our hearts.

Key lesson: Strive to set goals in the **Coming Year** that contribute to the betterment of yourself and your community.

7: **Building Consistency in Worship**

The Prophet ﷺ emphasized that the most beloved deeds to Allah are those that are consistent, even if they are small. Consistency in worship, whether it's daily prayers, remembrance of Allah (dhikr), or charity, establishes a strong foundation for spiritual growth for the **Coming Year**.

Key lesson: Establish habits of consistent worship and draw closer to Allah through regular acts of devotion.

8: **Strengthening Family Ties**

The Prophet ﷺ said, “Whoever would like his provision to be increased and his lifespan to be extended, let him uphold his family ties.” As we enter the **New Year**, let us work towards healing any rifts in our family relationships and investing in the ties that bind us.

Key lesson: Strengthen family relationships, as they are a means of blessings and Barakah in this world and the next.

9: **Trusting Allah in Challenges**

The Qur’an reminds us that with hardship comes ease. Life is full of challenges, but every difficulty is an opportunity for growth and trust in Allah. As we reflect on the challenges of the **Current Year**, let us resolve to face future trials with patience, faith, and trust in Allah’s plan.

Key lesson: Embrace challenges as opportunities to grow closer to Allah and trust in His wisdom.

10: **Ending with Du'a for a Blessed Year**

Du'a (supplication) is a powerful tool that allows us to seek Allah's mercy, guidance, and blessings. The Prophet ﷺ said, "Du'a is worship." As we enter the **Coming Year**, let us raise our hands in Du'a, asking Allah for a year of success, health, peace, and spiritual growth.

Key lesson: Make Du'a a regular part of your daily routine, seeking Allah's guidance and blessings for the year ahead.

Here is a comprehensive Du’a (supplication) derived from the Qur’an and Sunnah, along with its English translation. This Du’a combines various prophetic invocations and verses, emphasizing humility, gratitude, forgiveness, and seeking Allah’s guidance.

Arabic Du’a:

اللَّهُمَّ لك الحمد كما ينبغي لجلال وجهك وعظيم سلطانك.

اللَّهُمَّ اغفر لنا ذنوبنا، وإسرافنا في أمرنا، وثبّت أقدامنا، وانصرنا على القوم الكافرين.

اللَّهُمَّ اهدِنا فيمن هديت، وعافِنا فيمن عافيت، وتولّنا فيمن توليت، وبارك لنا فيما أعطيت، وقنا شرّ ما قضيت، فإنك تقضي ولا يُقضى عليك.

اللَّهُمَّ ارزقنا الإخلاص في القول والعمل، واغفر لنا خطايانا، وامحُ عنا سيئاتنا، وأدخلنا الجنة مع الأبرار، يا عزيز يا غفّار.

رَبَّنَا ظَلَمْنَا أَنْفُسَنَا وَإِنْ لَمْ تَغْفِرْ لَنَا وَتَرْحَمْنَا لَنَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ.

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.

اللَّهُمَّ اجعل القرآن العظيم ربيع قلوبنا، ونور صدورنا، وجلاء أحزاننا، وذهاب همومنا وغمومنا.

اللَّهُمَّ إنا نسألك الهداية والتوفيق، ونسألك رضاك والجنة، ونعوذ بك من سخطك والنار.

اللَّهُمَّ إنك عفوٌ تحب العفو فاعفُ عنّا.

اللَّهُمَّ اجعلنا من الذين قالوا سمعنا وأطعنا، غفرانك ربّنا وإليك المصير.

اللَّهُمَّ أصلح لنا ديننا الذي هو عصمة أمرنا، وأصلح لنا دنيانا التي فيها معاشنا، وأصلح لنا آخرتنا التي إليها معادنا، واجعل الحياة زيادةً لنا في كل خير، والموت راحةً لنا من كل شر.

اللَّهُمَّ ارزقنا حبك، وحب من يحبك، وحب العمل الذي يقربنا إلى حبك.

اللَّهُمَّ اغفر لوالدينا، وارحمهم كما ربونا صغارًا، واجعلنا من البارين بهم في حياتهم وبعد وفاتهم.

اللَّهُمَّ اجعلنا من التائبين الطائعين، واحشرنا مع النبيين والصديقين والشهداء والصالحين، وحسن أولئك رفيقًا.

English Translation:

O Allah, to You belongs all praise as is befitting Your majestic face and supreme authority.

O Allah, forgive us our sins, our excesses, and make firm our steps, and grant us victory over the disbelieving people.

O Allah, guide us among those whom You have guided, protect us among those whom You have protected, befriend us among those whom You have befriended, bless us in what You have given us, and save us from the evil of what You have decreed. Verily, You decree, and none can decree over You.

O Allah, grant us sincerity in speech and action, forgive our mistakes, erase our sins, and admit us into Paradise with the righteous, O Mighty, O Forgiving.

Our Lord, we have wronged ourselves, and if You do not forgive us and have mercy upon us, we will surely be among the losers.

Our Lord, give us good in this world and good in the Hereafter, and save us from the punishment of the Fire.

O Allah, make the Qur'an the spring of our hearts, the light of our chests, the remover of our sorrows, and the eliminator of our worries and griefs.

O Allah, we ask You for guidance and success. We ask You for Your pleasure and Paradise and seek refuge with You from Your wrath and Hellfire.

O Allah, You are Forgiving and love forgiveness, so forgive us.

O Allah, make us among those who say, “We hear, and we obey. Forgive us, our Lord, and to You is our return.”

O Allah, rectify for us our religion which is the safeguard of our affairs, rectify for us our worldly life in which is our livelihood, and rectify for us our Hereafter to which is our final destination. Make our life an increase in all good and make death a relief for us from every evil.

O Allah, grant us Your love, the love of those who love You, and the love of deeds that bring us closer to Your love.

O Allah, forgive our parents and have mercy on them as they brought us up when we were young, and make us among the righteous towards them in their lives and after their deaths.

O Allah, make us among the repentant and obedient ones. Gather us with the Prophets, the truthful, the

martyrs, and the righteous, and what an excellent company they are.

May Allah accept this heartfelt supplication and grant us His mercy, guidance, and eternal success.

Ameen!

Conclusion

Welcoming the **Coming Year** with Hope and Optimism,

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, let us remember that every day is a gift, and every moment is an opportunity to improve ourselves and draw closer to Allah. The lessons from the **Current Year** provide us with a foundation upon which we can build a better and more purposeful **Coming Year.**

I wish for each one of you a year filled with blessings, growth, and success. May Allah grant you the strength to reflect on the past with wisdom, renew your intentions with sincerity, and rise to new heights in the **Coming Year**. May your year be filled with peace, contentment, and endless opportunities for good deeds. And may Allah (SWT) accept your efforts and make this year a means of closer proximity to Him.

Author: Fokhrul Islam, (Imam Abu Yahya)
Date: Dec 2024

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